

## Message Text

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17

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04

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R 182256Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

TREASURY

USAGE NKP

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COGARD

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

UNCLAS STATE 156064

COGARD FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR,XC, US

SUBJECT: JULY 18 EA PRESS SUMMARY

INDOCHINA

1. REP. ASPIN CITES RECENT NEWS REPORT THAT SCRAP METAL DEPOT NEAR SAIGON WAS FOUND TO CONTAIN WINGS FROM AT LEAST 15 A-37 AIRCRAFT, ASKS GAO TO INVESTIGATE. ARTICLE NOTES US SENT LARGE NUMBERS UNCLASSIFIED

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OF A-37'S TO SVN SHORTLY BEFORE C-F (REUTER, SUN).

2. MIA KIN APPEAL FOR NATIONWIDE MAIL CAMPAIGN TO GET INFO ON MISSING MEN, ASK PEOPLE TO SEND "A FEW

GRAINS OF AMERICAN SOIL" IN ENVELOPE TO NVN MFA AS DEMONSTRATION OF CONCERN (NYDN). US EMBASSY OFFICIAL SAYS VC OFFICERS IN SAIGON AGREE TO MEET WITH GROUP REPRESENTING "YOUTH CONCERNED FOR 1,300 AMERICANS MISSING IN ACTION" MOVEMENT. YOUNGSTERS ARRIVED FROM LAOS ON WORLD TOUR TO PUBLICIZE MIA QUESTION, WILL ALSO MEET WITH GVN AND US OFFICIALS (REUTER SAIGON).

3. GVN SPOKESMAN SAYS COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS, IN APPARENT MOVE TO RECRUIT COMBAT AND LABOR FORCES, ABDUCTED 111 CIVILIANS IN PAST DAY (REUTER SAIGON).

4. INFO RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON INDICATES THAT PRC SENDING FOUR MEDICAL EXPERTS TO JOIN TEAM OF THIRTEEN PHYSICIANS ATTENDING SOUVANNA PHOUMA IN LAOS (WP).

5. CHITRIB'S KIRK, IN LAOS, WRITES OF INDOCHINA'S "LOST PRISONERS" - NORTH VIETS WHO LANGUISH IN CAMPS, UNWANTED BY CAPTORS BUT UNACKNOWLEDGED BY THEIR OWN COUNTRY. ONE OF MORE TALKATIVE OF 173 BEING HELD SAYS HE IS CERTAIN THEY WILL BE LIBERATED ONE DAY, HOPES TO BE RELEASED TO PL SO CAN GO HOME. HE DOES NOT KNOW THAT ONLY REASON THEY REMAIN IN PRISON IS BECAUSE NVN DENIES EVER HAVING SENT SOLDIERS TO FIGHT IN LAOS AND REFUSES TO ACCEPT THEM. NORTH VIET PRISONERS HELD DEMONSTRATION ON JUNE 4, DATE WHEN ALL PRISONERS SUPPOSED TO BE REPATRIATED UNDER C-F. MEANWHILE, LIFE IN PRISON NOT TOO BAD. KIRK SEES FACT THAT FEW NORTH VIETS CAPTURED AS SIGN OF THEIR STRENGTH AND LAO WEAKNESS; QUOTES MIL SOURCE ESTIMATE THAT 50,000 NVA NOW IN LAOS EITHER GUARDING HO TRAIL OR SUPPORTING PL.

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6. DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY SIHANOUK'S MOTHER GRAVELY ILL AND HAS BEEN IN COMA FOR A WEEK (REUTER PEKING).

CHINA

7. WP'S COHN REPORTS "SMILING," HAND-SHAKING HUANG CHEN'S FIRST TOUR OF US HOSPITAL WEDNESDAY, AT GWU. HUANG AND 11 COLLEAGUES MADE VISIT AT HIS OWN REQUEST, AND HE AND HOSPITAL OFFICIALS DISCLOSED THAT GW DOCTORS HAVE BEEN HELPING HUANG'S STAFF FOR PAST 14 MONTHS. NONE HAS NEEDED HOSPITALIZING, BUT GW STAFF MEMBERS HAVE STOPPED BY PRCLO TO TREAT MINOR AILMENTS. HUANG VOICED APPRECIATION, SAYING GWU HOSPITAL "WAS RECOMMENDED TO US" BY DOS; BUT

DOS DIDN'T KNOW OF WEDNESDAY VISIT. OFFICIAL OF CHINESE LIAISON COMMITTEE AT NAS SAID PRCLO HAS BEEN MAKING GROWING NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT FORAYS TO SMITHSONIAN, AREA PARKS, PICNIC SITES AND OTHER CAPITAL ATTRACTIONS.

8. WALL POSTERS APPEARING IN PEKING TELL OF HUNAN POLITICAL PRISONER'S PERSECUTION AND DISAPPEARANCE OF TAPE RECORDINGS CONCERNING HIS CASE (WP).

9. UN REPORT ON MILITARY ACTIVITY IN INDIAN OCEAN HAS BEEN REISSUED IN RADICALLY SHORTENED AND REVISED FORM AFTER BEING CRITICIZED BY MANY OF COUNTRIES

MENTIONED IN IT. REVISED REPORT SOFTENS PORTRAYAL OF US AS RESPONSIBLE FOR ARMS RACE IN REGION AND SAYS THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF ANY PRC MILITARY ROLE THERE (AP, WP).

JAPAN

10. GAIMUSHO SAYS AMB. HODGSON TOLD NEW FM KIMURA THAT PRES. HOPES TO VISIT JAPAN THIS YEAR; KIMURA TOLD AMB. "HE WOULD WELCOME" NIXON VISIT (CSM).

11. SUN'S SEIDEN AND WP REPORT FUKUDA AND MIKI MEETING TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ALLIANCE AGAINST TANAKA ENDED UNCLASSIFIED

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WITH AMBIGUOUS AGREEMENT SEEMING TO PAVE WAY FOR POLITICAL ALLIANCE, DESPITE IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES. TTEY AGREED ON "PARTY REFORMS" TO PURGE LDP OF "BIG BUSINESS IMAGE." SEIDEN FEELS ONLY REAL ISSUE SEEMS OPPONENTS' BELIEF THAT TANAKA CAN NO LONGER WIN ENOUGH VOTES TO WIN IN NEXT ELECTIONS.

12. SOVIET-JAPANESE ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMITTEE SAYS GULF OIL TO JOIN JAPANESE GROUP IN EXPLORATION PROJECT OFF SAKHALIN. GULF TECHNICAL AID EXPECTED TO LEAD TO OFFICIAL USSR-JAPAN AGREEMENT ON PROJECT (REUTER TOKYO).

13. LABOR MIN "WHITE PAPER" OPPOSES INCOMES POLICY AS MEANS TO CONTROL INFLATION, SAYING WAGE HIEE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PRICE SPIRAL. OEANWHILE, EPA DIRECTOR-GENERAL UCHIDA SAYS FREEZE ON ESSENTIAL ITEMS' PRICES TO REMAIN IN EFFECT (UPI, JOC).

NEW ZEALAND

14. WITHOUT DISCLOSING SOURCE, KIRK SAYS HE HAS REASON

TO BELIEVE FRANCE HAS CONDUCTED ANOTHER ATMOSPHERIC  
A-TEST IN SOUTH PACIFIC. ALSO NOTES WITH REGRET  
RECURRENCE OF UNDERGROUND TESTING BY US AND USSR  
(AP, SUN).

AUSTRALIA

15. JOC'S DREYER REPORTS AUSTRALIA AMONG NATIONS  
HARDEST HIT BY EEC DECISION TO IMPOSE 3-MONTH  
TOTAL BAN ON NEW CATTLE AND BEEF IMPORTS.

JOC REPORTS NEW WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION PLAN  
SHOULD ACT AS INCENTIVE TO NEW PLANTINGS. ON

BASIS OF MID-JUNE CONDITIONS, AUSTRALIAN WHEAT  
BOARD PREDICTS BUMPER HARVEST, 10-13 MILLION TONS.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS  
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KOREA

16. NYT'S BUTTERFIELD IN SEOUL CITES REPORT OF KIM  
CHI HA'S DEFIANCE WHEN DEATH SENTENCE IMPOSED BY  
MIL JUDGE LAST WEEK, DECLARING JUSTNESS OF HIS  
CAUSE AND "I WOULD DO THE SAME THING OVER AGAIN  
IF I AM RELEASED." BEFORE ANOTHER MIL TRIBUNAL  
YESTERDAY, EX-PRES YUN ADMITTED HAVING GIVEN  
EQUIVALENT OF 1,000 DOLLARS TO DISSIDENT STUDENTS.  
HE IS NOW UNDER HOUSE ARREST AND FORBIDDEN TO  
TALK WITH CORRESPONDENTS. EARLIER, HE HAD TOLD  
INTERVIEWERS (PRESUMABLY BUTTERFIELD), "ALL  
WE ARE WORKING FOR IS DEMOCRACY...THE STUDENTS  
ARE CHRISTIANS, NOT COMMUNISTS. IF WE DON'T  
HAVE DEMOCRACY HERE, WHY DID THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS  
COME TO KOREA TO FIGHT AND DIE?"

MRS. YUN ACCOMPANIED HER HUSBAND TO COURT-MARTIAL  
YESTERDAY; EACH DEFENDANT IS ALLOWED ONE CLOSE  
FAMILY MEMBER PRESENT. KIM'S WIFE WENT TO DOZEN  
SESSIONS OF HER HUSBAND'S TRIAL, TAKING THEIR SON,  
BORN SINCE KIM'S ARREST IN APRIL. SHE HAS NOT  
BEEN ALLOWED TO VISIT PRISON OR EXCHANGE LETTERS  
WITH HIM.

THOUGH KIM IS WELL KNOWN, MANY KOREANS STILL NOT  
AWARE THAT HE WAS TRIED AND GIVEN DEATH PENALTY.  
IN ANNOUNCING VERDICT, MIL SPOKESMAN DESCRIBED  
HIM ONLY BY HIS LITTLE-USED ORIGINAL NAME,  
KIM YOUNG IL, AND STRICTLY CONTROLLED PRESS DID  
NOT VENTURE TO SUPPLY MISSING INFO. TO AVOID HER  
OWN ARREST, MRS. KIM DECLINED TO SPECULATE WHETHER

CHARGES AGAINST HER HUSBAND WERE TRUE. LETTER CIRCULATING IN SEOUL THAT WAS DRAWN UP BY FAMILIES OF SOME OF 54 OTHERS CONVICTED IN SAME TRIAL ALLEGES THAT ROKG MANUFACTURED EVIDENCE AND SUBJECTED PRISONERS TO "INTOLERABLE TORTURE BY WATER, ELECTRICITY AND DENIAL OF SLEEP."

CHINA  
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17. COLUMBIA'S PROF C. MARTIN WILBUR IN LETTER TO NYT EDITOR TAKES ISSUE WITH JACKSON PROPOSAL TO RAISE USLO TO EMBASSY AND REDUCE EMBASSY TAIPEI TO LIAISON OFFICE. SAYS HE HAS NO QUARREL WITH DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH MAINLAND CHINA IN INTEREST OF WORLD PEACE, BUT DOES NOT SEE WHY THIS SHOULD BE DONE "AT THE COST OF SERIOUS DAMAGE TO OUR FRIEND AND ALLY..."

DRAWING ON EXAMPLE OF DIVIDED GERMANY, EACH GOVT. OF WHICH IS REPRESENTED IN UN AND ENJOYS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MAJOR GOVTS, WILBUR SAYS SAME PRINCIPLE SHOULD APPLY TO DIVIDED CHINA. IF PRC REFUSES, THAT IS ITS DECISION. WILBUR SEES NO COMPELLING REASON WHY BLOW SHOULD BE DELIVERED TO CHINESE ON TAIWAN; SAYS JACKSON HAS SIMPLY FALLEN IN WITH PEKING'S STRATEGY TO ISOLATE TAIWAN DIPLOMATICALLY BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO SUBDUE IT.

MALAYSIA

18. LAT'S ELEGANT (JULY 17) IN PENANG DISCUSSES MALAYSIAN COMMUNIST INSURGENCY, COMPARING SITUATION TWO DECADES AGO WITH PRESENT. NOTES DECLINE IN NUMBERS OF INSURGENTS - MOSTLY CHINESE - AND DISAPPEARANCE OF "NEW VILLAGES" TO WHICH CHINESE SQUATTERS WERE FORCIBLY SHIFTED TO PREVENT PASSING FOOD AND AMMO TO TERRORISTS. OBSERVES THAT FORMER "NEW VILLAGERS" AS WELL AS THEIR RICHER CAMPATRIOTS RESENT GOM'S EXPLICIT FAVORITISM FOR MALAYS AND RESENT LOSS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR WHICH THEIR ANCESTORS CAME TO THE COUNTRY.

IN GOOD PART BECAUSE OF INTERNAL CHINESE DISCONTENT, KL RECOGNIZED PRC. BUT GOM IS LIKELY TO BE DISAPPOINTED IF IT EXPECTED THE MOVE TO WIN IT POLITICAL SUPPORT OF LOCAL CHINESE. CHINESE RESIDENTS ARE NATURALLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT RECOGNITION OF "MOTHERLAND," BELIEVING THAT RECOGNITION WOULD ENHANCE THEIR OWN STATUS. SOME  
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CHERISH VAGUE - AND HOPELESS - DREAM THAT PRC  
WILL PRESSURE KL FOR THEIR BENEFIT; THEY CLING  
TO THAT HOPE ALTHOUGH PEKING PUBLICLY ADVISED  
THEM TO BECOME GOOD MALAYSIANS AND HAS PRIVATELY  
WASHED HANDS OF INSURGENT "MALAYAN RACES LIBERATION  
ARMY." BUT GOM UNDERESTIMATED SHREWDNESS OF CHINESE;

IF ANYTHING, RECOGNITION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY LOCAL  
CHINESE AS A PROPER DISPLAY OF HUMILITY BY AN  
INFERIOR NATION TOWARD SUPERIOR CIVILIZATION AND  
POWER. CITES CHINESE SHOPKEEPER AS EXPRESSING  
PLEASURE OVER PRC BEING ACCEPTED AS MAJOR POWER,  
BUT ADDING "WE KNOW ABOUT POLITICAL DISORDER AND  
ECONOMIC DEPRIVATION IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC.  
FEW CHINESE WOULD LIKE TO SEE ANYTHING LIKE THE  
SAME SYSTEM HERE."

ELEGANT VIEWS THIS REALISM AS GREATEST OBSTACLE  
TO AMBITIONS OF THE MCP, WHICH STILL CAMPAIGNS  
AGAINST GOM FROM THAILAND'S SOUTHERN SANCTUARIES.  
NOTES CTS ARE A CONTINUING DISSIDENT FORCE, BUT  
NOT A STRONG THREAT. HOWEVER, COMMUNIST MOVEMENT  
IS SHOWING RENEWED VIGOR, ACCORDING ELEGANT.  
DRAWING PRIMARILY ON DISCONTENTED CHINESE YOUTHS,  
MALAYAN LIBERATION ARMY HAS NO DIFFICULTY IN  
MAINTAINING - AND ENLARGING - ITS FORCE OF 2,000  
"SOLDIERS" - LARGELY NEW RECRUITS. BUT INTELLIGENCE  
REPORTS INDICATE THAT TERRORISTS ARE EXPERIENCING  
MAJOR DIFFICULTIES.

JAPAN

19. LAT'S JAMESON (JULY 17) IN TOKYO WRITES AT LENGTH  
ABOUT TANAKA CABINET RESIGNATIONS, STRESSING LDP  
FACTIONALISM.

GENERAL

20. CSM CRITICIZES PRACTICE OF NAMING US ENVOYS ABROAD  
ON BASIS OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS.  
NOTES, HOWEVER, THAT FOREIGN SERVICE "IS INVIGORATED"  
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BY ENLISTING SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE OF SUCH MEN AS  
DAVID BRUCE, MOYNIHAN AND INGERSOLL. INGERSOLL

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NHA TRANG  
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